



Protected Site
Strategies

JOB DESCRIPTION AND ROLE SPECIFICATION

Transforming the Wensum Project Manager

Permanent, full-time role, initially hosted by Norfolk Wildlife Trust and funded by Natural England to develop and deliver a Protected Sites Strategy, then broadening to deliver further catchment-based work to deliver Norfolk Wildlife Trust's strategy.

Norfolk Wildlife Trust is committed to nature recovery across Norfolk and responsible for partnering, collaborating and influencing to achieve and deliver our Nature Recovery Strategy 2023-30 that includes:

- Increasing the abundance and diversity of wildlife across Norfolk
- Increasing the area of land managed and restored for nature across Norfolk
- Connecting wild spaces for nature's recovery

Norfolk Wildlife Trust (NWT) is working collaboratively with Natural England (NE) to develop its Protected Sites Strategy (PSS) for the Wensum Catchment. As a priority area for NWT and an iconic chalk river it is vital this Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Special Area of Conservation (SAC) is conserved for the future.

ROLE PURPOSE

The objective of this role is to support and co-ordinate partners, stakeholders and the community across the Wensum Catchment to build consensus to develop a unifying vision, strategy and agreed action plan for the River Wensum.

Hosted by Norfolk Wildlife Trust and working as part of the Natural England Protected Sites Strategy (PSS) project team this role will focus on building relationships and managing partnerships, stakeholders and interested parties to engage in the future of the Wensum.

The Wensum PSS aims are to enable partners to collaborate, align and co-ordinate our efforts to improve the health and resilience of The River Wensum SSSI and catchment. To do this we will identify and address the pressures that are negatively impacting the River Wensum.

The PSS framework will bring together new and existing work and resources to realise solutions and improvements, adding value by making the best use of opportunities, bringing in additional funding, support and establishing a coherent plan that we can deliver together now and in the future.

This approach will benefit the protected site but also enable nature recovery across the wider landscape by bringing improvements to water quality, water availability and flow, understand and adapt to climate change, as well as support designated species and take account of community and land managers priorities.



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REPORTING TO:

Director of Nature Recovery, Norfolk Wildlife Trust with some reporting responsibilities to the Principal Manager for Norfolk, Natural England.

OTHER WORKING RELATIONSHIPS

Within the organisation

Directors, managers, trustees, volunteers and staff at all levels, as appropriate to the role.

Outside the organisation

Natural England PSS lead, staff within other statutory agencies and voluntary organisations, landowners and conservation related external groups.

MAIN DUTIES

1. Work with the NE PSS project team, and act as the 'on the ground' advocator and co-ordinator, to deliver the Wensum PSS as part of a multidisciplinary team, contributing information, ideas and working within a project framework, ensuring that this becomes an active, unifying strategy for delivering action in the Wensum catchment.
2. Identify current and potential factors that are having a detrimental impact on the catchment including the SSSI/SAC.
3. Lead on the developing on early work from the Wensum Collaboration Group, develop a detailed understanding of stakeholders and their interests, activities and views on several issues to inform the content of the PSS.
4. Lead the collaboration with colleagues, consultants and partners to find solutions to complex problems, clearly explain decisions to others and implement them as agreed.
5. Contribute to the development of a;
 - a. unifying PSS vision
 - b. strategic delivery plan
 - c. green finance strategy
6. Lead the development and implementation of a PSS stakeholder engagement and communications plan for the PSS and Wensum catchment and support NE with the public consultation process of the PSS.
7. Create capacity for collaboration by informing and supporting existing groups and partnerships to work together to integrate efforts for the greater good of the health of the River Wensum.
8. Engage with a wide range of views to ensure that the PSS and other local strategies are taking account of a range of aspirations and opportunities.



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9. Act as a representative of Natural England and Norfolk Wildlife Trust in various external fora related to the PSS.
10. Work with NWT colleagues to mainstream catchment scale thinking and action into our key work programmes and strategies.
11. Undertake other ad hoc duties as reasonably requested and agreed with line manager.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential:

- Extensive project management experience on large, complex projects developed by multidisciplinary teams and a diversity of stakeholders
- Excellent relationship management and stakeholder engagement skills across a diverse range of stakeholders and statutory consultees
- Excellent facilitation and interpersonal skills, specifically in co-ordination and working across stakeholders to deliver strategic outcomes
- Good knowledge and understanding of freshwater habitat systems and conservation and the threats and challenges
- Excellent written and oral presentation skills and experience
- A self-starter with a strong sense of ownership and the ability to work independently, as part in a team, and under a matrix management model
- Strong organisational and administrative skills
- A strong commitment to nature conservation and the work of the lead partners
- A high degree of competence in the use of IT systems, particularly GIS, Microsoft Office suite and information management
- Current driving licence or access to fully funded alternative transport to locations not served by public transport

Desirable

- Experience working for or with statutory bodies and good understanding of designations
- Good understanding and technical knowledge of wildlife conservation and land management issues and methods as they apply to designated sites
- Understanding of Norfolk's wide range of nature recovery and conservation stakeholders

We value respect, integrity, trust and responsibility. We want our people to be as diverse as nature itself and so we particularly encourage applications from those currently under-represented within our sector, including people from minority ethnic backgrounds and people with disabilities. We welcome people of all backgrounds and levels of experience with nature and continually strive to improve our culture and practices. We are committed to creating a movement that recognises and truly values individual differences and identities. Please let us know if you require any adjustment processes to make our recruitment process more accessible.

LIMITS OF AUTHORITY

Sign purchase orders and commit expenditure to agreed limits.



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HEALTH AND SAFETY

Attached with contract.

RISK ASSESSMENT

Provided with employment contract. Reviewed annually as part of Annual Appraisal.